

A MEMORIAL MEETING

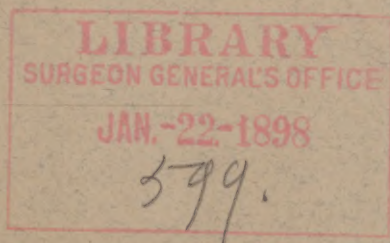
RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF

PROF. THOMAS L. BUCKINGHAM,

UNDER THE

Auspices of the Dental Societies of Philadelphia,

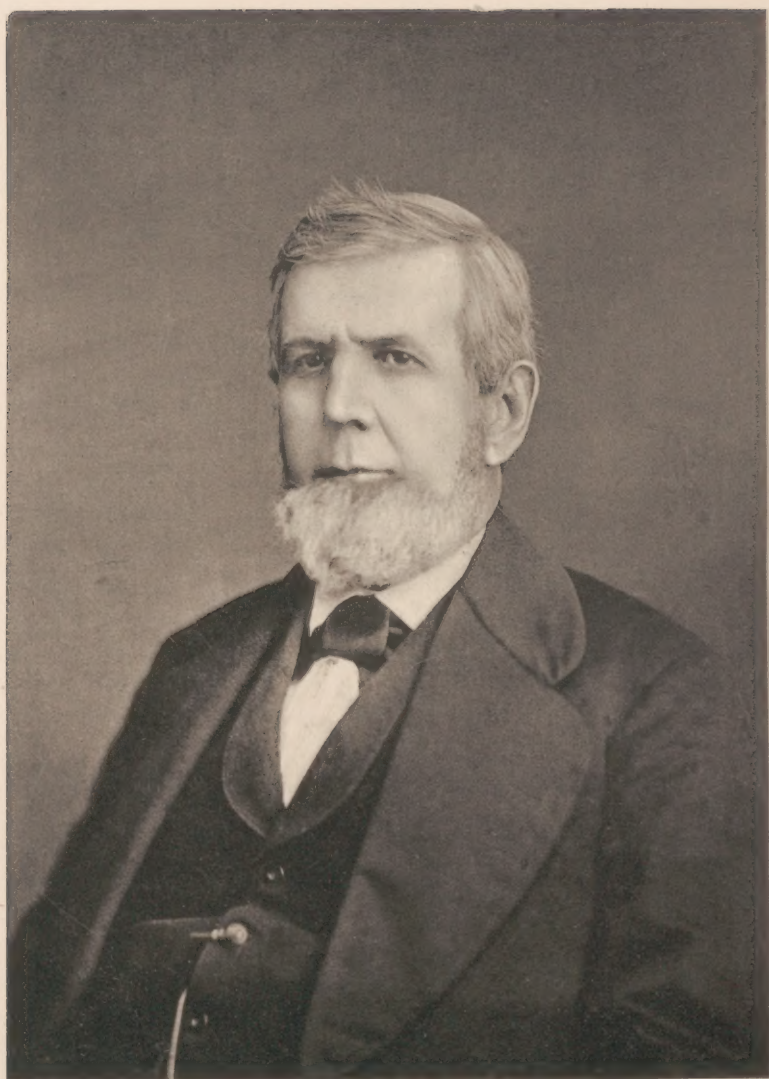
HELD AT 8 O'CLOCK, P.M.,
OCT. 30, 1883, IN THE HALL OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGERY
N. W. CORNER TWELFTH AND FILBERT STS.



PHILADELPHIA:

PRESS OF PATTERSON & WHITE, 607 CHESTNUT ST.

1884.



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J L Buckingham

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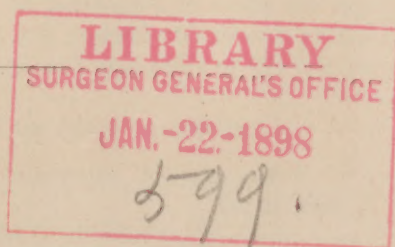
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THE PROCEEDINGS AND REMARKS.

Dr. W. A. Breen. Gentlemen, I move that Dr. Daniel Neall be called to the chair.

The motion being put, it was agreed to, and Dr. Neall assumed the chair.

On motion, Dr. Theodore F. Chupein was elected secretary.

Dr. Neall (chairman). I may say that I think I apprehend the sentiments of every dentist here. We have come to this place to-night with one accord. I think I am not mistaken when I say that it gives us pleasure as well as does us honor to try in some sense to testify to the worthiness of one of our fellows, who in the fullness of time has passed away. You have elected me to preside over this meeting; and I can assure you of my feelings of sympathy and interest, and that so far as it depends upon myself, the meeting will give expression to these sentiments which I know we all entertain.

Dr. E. H. Neal. I move that the Chair appoint a committee to draft a series of resolutions expressive of our feelings in regard to the death of Dr. Buckingham.

This motion being approved by the meeting, the Chair appointed the following Committee on Resolutions:

Drs. W. H. Trueman, E. H. Neall, Ambler Tees, E. C. Kirk, T. F. Chupein, Spencer Roberts, J. H. Githens, H. M. Sheppard.

The committee then retired to prepare the resolutions.

Dr. Neall (chairman). While the committee is out, as we have received a number of quite interesting letters connected with this Memorial Meeting, perhaps it may be considered in order for the secretary to read some of them. It will probably be to our profit. If there is no objection the secretary will read some of the letters which have been received.

Dr. Chupein (secretary) here read the following letters:

169 CLINTON ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.,

Oct. 25, 1883.

Doctors E. H. Neall, W. A. Breen, E. C. Kirk, committee.

GENTLEMEN,—I am in receipt of your circular, notifying me of the "Memorial Meeting" in your city, and inviting me to be present. I wish I could be with you on that occasion; but as I cannot, I wish to express the sense of personal loss I feel in the death of my friend Prof. Buckingham, and to add my tribute to his

worth. As I knew him, he was the embodiment of simple and sincere integrity. I felt I could trust him always. His words expressed, never concealed, the thoughts of his heart. Quiet, unostentatious, steady, and persevering, he was a valuable member of society, a careful and conscientious instructor, a painstaking dentist, and an honest man. We sustain a great loss when such men die, and we do well to put on record our appreciation of their character, our sorrow at their loss, and our commendation of their virtues.

Believe me, gentlemen, I am a mourner with you. The occasions of our meeting have been few of late years, but when they have occurred, the sight of his genial face and the grasp of his honest hand always gave me a thrill of joy. This I can have no more; but I can remember him, and shall do so with a keen pleasure, at the thought that his friendship was mine. If he leaves a family my sympathies are theirs.

Truly and sincerely yours,

J. A. MARVIN.

1112 ARCH ST., PHILA., 10 Mo. 29, 1883.

To Drs. E. H. Neall, W. H. Breen, E. C. Kirk, committee.

DEAR DOCTORS,—It is with extreme regret that I have to state in reply to your invitation, that I shall be unavoidably absent from the city on the evening designated for the "General Memorial Meeting," called for the purpose of taking action expressive of the sorrow and regret occasioned by the death of Professor T. L. Buckingham. It is most fitting that our profession unite in this manner to manifest our appreciation of his life; his worth as a man, a citizen, and member and teacher in our ranks, whose example of faithful service, and conscientious fulfilment of the duties and the requirements of every station to which his purpose and energy were so singly devoted, throughout the period of his connection with the profession he strove to advance and elevate by all means in his power—will be remembered and appreciated by every class of dental students since the first establishment of the old Philadelphia Dental College in 1852.

One by one have passed away those eminent teachers, who first entered upon the laudable purpose of establishing a standard of qualification worthy of the name of a profession, as a guarantee of confidence upon which its members might stand, deserving the trust of its patrons, until now only *one* remains to meet with us in these expressions of affectionate and grateful remembrance.

Again regretting my unavoidable absence from the meeting, I am very sincerely yours.

ISAIAH PRICE.

33 WEST 47TH ST., NEW YORK,
Oct. 26, 1883.

Doctors E. H. Neall, W. A. Breen, and E. C. Kirk, committee.

GENTLEMEN,—I sincerely regret my inability to meet my professional brethren of Philadelphia on Tuesday evening next, and there to add a few words of tribute to the memory of our dear departed friend, the late Prof. Buckingham. It is indeed fitting that the dentists of the city where he so long resided, "take some action expressive of sorrow and regret," when thus suddenly deprived of the fellowship of a member of their fraternity so universally loved and honored.

The loss occasioned by the death of Prof. Buckingham is by no means confined to the State of Pennsylvania, but is a loss felt throughout our land. Indeed, the vibrations of sorrow extend to members of our profession over every civilized

portion of the planet. Genial and kindly disposed towards all, and with a heart full of fraternal sympathy, he paced the path of life, freely distributing the fruits of a well stored intellect, which have been gathered by many eager souls with loving gratitude.

With the names of *Hayden* and *Harris*, *Townsend* and *McQuillen*, men who infused light into the very soul of their profession—men who labored earnestly and assiduously to educate its members, and thus elevate the standard of dentistry—we can now add to this memorable list of faithful workers and pioneers of our calling, the name of *Buckingham*!

Very truly yours,

CHAS. E. FRANCIS.

1602 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA,

Oct. 30, 1883.

DEAR DOCTOR,—I will be unable to attend the meeting to be held this evening in memory of Prof. Buckingham, your invitation to which is hereby acknowledged. While it may seem superfluous, in view of the appropriate resolutions which will no doubt be presented, and the talented gentlemen present to eulogize in fitting words our late friend, I cannot forbear to add a word in tribute to the memory of so good a man. For more than twenty-five years it was my good fortune to be on terms of the closest intimacy with him, and for a period of three years (one of which by his characteristic kindness I occupied office-room in his house) I was almost as one of his family.

While leaving to others to speak of what Prof. Buckingham was in and to the the dental profession, and the great loss it suffers in his death, it is to his many virtues and good qualities as a *man*, so beautifully exemplified in his home life, that I wish to testify. Though an indefatigable worker, seldom having an idle moment, it was remarkable that he was never too busy to enter into the enjoyments of his family, or to give counsel or a helping hand to them or his friends. That he possessed those traits that go to make a good and noble man is better attested in the universal sorrow at his death, and the respect and esteem in which his memory is held, than words of mine can express.

Very truly yours,

I. S. Fogg,

To E. H. Neall, D.D.S., chm. com.

106 N. 11TH ST., PHILADA.

Oct. 27, 1883.

Drs. Neall, Breen & Kirk.

GENTLEMEN,—I regret that physical inability prevents me from joining with you in the "Memorial Meeting," to my old friend Professor Buckingham, but I desire to add my word of sympathy with those who, like myself, have lost a friend, whose pleasant face and genial greeting have been a joy to us for so many, many years. It can be said of him that he well filled his niche during all of his long period of service, and it is as such a worker that we shall hold his memory with affectionate respect.

With kind regards to those who meet with you, as well as to yourselves, I remain

Very sincerely your friend,

J. FOSTER FLAGG.

10 EAST 34TH ST., NEW YORK,
Oct. 29, 1888.

Drs. Neall, Breen & Kirk.

MY DEAR SIRs,—It will not be possible for me to be with you to-morrow evening to say a kindly word in memory of our dear old friend who has gone hence. I find no words to express just the feeling I have in writing of him, but to call him my dear, dear old friend! From the time I sat under his lectures twenty years ago to the present time, I have known him only to love him. In addition to the expression of my strong liking for him, personally, let me call attention to one quality of his mind that always impressed me strongly, namely, his "level-headedness!" So free from "cranky" notions was he, that in the early years of my practice it was my unconscious habit to seek his opinions on new subjects of theory or of practice, and generally I found them sound in the end. As an educator this soundness of mind was conspicuous, and I doubt of any one in the profession has wielded a greater influence for good over the minds of young men. I believe it will be felt wherever is found a graduate of the old Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery.

The dear old man! Who could know him without loving him?

Yours most truly.

S. G. PERRY.

667 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK,
Oct. 26, 1888.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Your letter requesting my presence and participation in memorial offerings to our deceased brother, Buckingham, on the 30th of this month, was duly received. As I shall not be able to meet with you at that time, I trust you will permit to be read for me as though present, the following brief tribute to his memory and worth.

We are met to recognize and deplore the solemn fact that a NOBLE man has fallen from our ranks. I feel honored by your invitation to be present and express the sentiments of regret I feel at so great a loss. My personal acquaintance with Dr. Buckingham was very limited; but on the few occasions I had seen him in our society meetings and social gatherings I felt an indefinable and magnetic attraction which filled me with the greatest pleasure and respect. Solidity, earnestness, sincerity, geniality appeared in him as a combination of excellent attributes, which, without ostentation, fitted and became him well.

Along the trail of human action, beacon lights have at intervals appeared, and their record in history has served to guide and encourage the earnest seekers after mental progress and moral growth. *The light which our friend set up while here was one of these, and in his peculiar sphere its influence for good was none the less because its glow was steady and its ray serene.* We may write, we may speak, in sorrowing words of him we mourn; but only in the memory and appreciation of his contemporaries—in the hearts and minds of the generations he has instructed and blessed can his adequate memorial be found.

J. W. CLOWES.

To E. H. Neall, W. H. Breen, E. C. Kirk, committee.

CHILLICOTHE, O., Oct. 28, 1888.

Drs. E. H. Neall, W. H. Breen, E. C. Kirk, committee, Philadelphia.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your invitation to a general "Memorial Meeting," to be held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday evening,

Oct. 30th, commemorative of the death of the late Prof. Thomas L. Buckingham. It would be grateful to my feelings and in accordance with my earnest desires to unite with my colleagues of Philadelphia, in heartfelt expressions of sorrow and regret at the death, and well merited eulogies of the departed.

The meeting of the Ohio State Dental Society occurs on Wednesday Oct. 31st., and as I am obliged to be present, am prevented from coming to Philadelphia; permit me therefore to avail myself of the sad privilege of offering a few thoughts, expressive of my deep sorrow.

How vividly this brings to my mind the last time I had the pleasure of meeting with our deceased friend. It was at Niagara Falls, last summer. It was my privilege to be one of the first to welcome him, and one of the last to bid him good-by. At both times a feeling of indescribable sadness took possession of me; and when the final farewell was spoken, and hands released from the last warm and hearty clasp, I felt a presentiment creeping over me that this would be our last meeting on earth. How sad it is to remember with what heroic fortitude and courage he kept his place in line. He did not miss a session of the Association; spoke upon questions of interest to the dental profession, and evinced that lively and unabated interest in the welfare of dental colleges and education to the very last.

Dr. Buckingham was one of the kindest and most genial gentleman it has been my good fortune to meet. "To know him was to love him." He was a warm and faithful friend of more than two decades to me, and sincerely do I mourn his loss; not only as a valued and honored member of the dental profession, but as a dear personal friend.

"Peace to his ashes."

With the assurance of my high personal regard, I am gentlemen,

Truly and respectfully yours,

FR. H. REHWINKEL.

Letters were also received from the following gentlemen, expressing sympathy with the meeting and regretting their inability to be present.

Drs. J. C. Green, West Chester, Pa.; Wingate, Carbondale, Pa.; J. E. Garretson, Philadelphia, Pa.; W. E. Magill, Erie, Pa.; C. R. Butler, Cleveland, Ohio; Geo. H. Cushing, Chicago, Illinois; Frank Abbott, New York, N. Y.; Norman W. Kingsley, New York, N. Y.; William Jarvie, Brooklyn, N. Y.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Committee on Resolutions returned to the hall and presented their report as follows:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His great Omniscience to call from our midst our friend and brother Thomas L. Buckingham; and

WHEREAS, By his removal the students under his charge and the dental profession have sustained a severe loss, all of whom acknowledge the privation to which they are subjected, both in their professional and social intercourse with him; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Pennsylvania Association of Dental Surgeons, The Odontographic, and the Odontological Societies of Philadelphia, having

spontaneously met together to pay a tribute of respect to his memory, and to place on record the deep feelings of sorrow which his death has occasioned, as well as to express their humble submission to the fiat of the Most High, which admits of no recall. Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Prof. Buckingham, the dental profession loses one of its earnest and faithful workers—one who for many years has devoted his time, talent, and means to advance its general interests. His labors in the laboratory—beginning almost with his first entrance into the profession and ending only with his death—endeavoring to solve the various questions that have from time to time occupied professional thought; his many carefully conducted series of experiments which have enabled us to work with more ease, certainty, and intelligence, and his numerous contributions to Dental Literature, are a legacy to the profession we accept with grateful appreciation.

Resolved, That his long services as a dental instructor, beginning with the first Dental Faculty organized in Philadelphia, and continuing without interruption for thirty-two years, is a recognition of his ability as a teacher that we emphatically endorse.

Resolved, That his liberal and tolerant spirit, his cordial greeting, and his genial disposition, endeared him alike to the students whom he taught and to all with whom he mingled.

Resolved, That the city of Philadelphia has lost a valuable and upright citizen, and each one of us an acquaintance and friend whom the more we knew of him, and the riper the intimacy, the more we recognized his sterling worth, his kindly disposition, his social qualifications, and all those endearing attributes which go to make up a good, true, and noble man.

Resolved, That to the young in our profession his loss will be especially severe, as his fund of knowledge and mature judgment, together with a willingness to impart information, encouraged the humblest and the most timid to seek his counsel. That gaining information by his own hard labor, he felt it a pleasure to aid others in its acquisition; and in doing this made the recipient feel as if he conferred rather than received the benefit.

Resolved, That we, fellow practitioners, together with the Faculty and Students connected with the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, mourn his loss with a regret no words can express.

Resolved, That we tender to his family our heartfelt sympathy, and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to them as a token of our condolence.

Dr. Neall (chairman). What order will the meeting take upon the resolutions which have just been read?

Dr. Peirce. I move their acceptance and adoption for consideration this evening.

Dr. Neall (chairman). Do you propose that a vote shall be taken upon them at once, or shall we have some remarks upon them?

Dr. Peirce. I think that remarks would now be in order, and then we can take the vote upon the resolutions afterwards. That was my intention in making my motion.

REMARKS.

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Darby.

Dr. Darby. I can truthfully say that I did not come here prepared to say anything. It is eminently fitting, assembled as we are to-night, to take action relative to the death of our esteemed friend and brother Dr. Buckingham, that we should make mention of his work. The resolutions set forth the character and the life of the man better, perhaps, than anyone could do without previous thought. Most of the gentlemen present knew Dr. Buckingham during his lifetime. On my way to this meeting I recollected the fact that it will be just nineteen years to-morrow since I made his acquaintance. I then came to Philadelphia a perfect stranger, not knowing a living soul here, and I think the second man to take me by the hand was Professor Thomas L. Buckingham. I shall never forget the genialty with which he received me. I was young, and a stranger among strangers, but he made me feel at once that he had a heart as large as humanity, and the kind words he spoke to me at that time and in subsequent years will ever be fresh in my memory. Dr. Buckingham was no ordinary man. Of humble, though of honorable parentage, without advantages of a collegiate education, he achieved a distinction which few men have attained in longer lives than his. He entered our profession in its infancy and worked up, step by step, through the progress that dentistry has made, until he stood in the very foremost rank. As a teacher he had few equals: he was always patient, and willing, and cordial, in imparting instruction to beginners. He was one of the few men who enjoy teaching students or younger men; and, as the resolutions state, it seemed to be a greater pleasure to him to impart instruction than it was to those who received it. And we cannot forget what Dr. Buckingham was as a man and a citizen. He was loyal to his country, earnest—intensely earnest—in his opinion, and no man could ever say that he knew Dr. Buckingham to do a dishonorable thing. He was not, perhaps, what would be called a prosperous man in his profession. He achieved distinction by his worth, and what he accomplished he accomplished by hard work; and the degree of eminence he reached, he reached by hard work. I am sure every gentleman present feels as I do, that in the loss of Dr. Buckingham we have not only lost a dear friend, but one of the best men the dental profession has ever had. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will take the liberty of calling on Dr. J. D. White.

Dr. J. D. White. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I can say that it has been a long time since I have addressed my professional brethren and students. It is not worth my while to say anything further than what has been presented already to us by the Committee. I can endorse everything said in the preamble and in the resolutions.

Dr. Buckingham was my colleague in the first college established in Philadelphia, and I am the only one left of that college to tell the story. Now I will not take up your time by describing the nature or the condition the profession was then in—or rather the business—for there was no “profession” of dentistry when I first came to City of Philadelphia to try and learn something about it. It was not a profession. It was nothing but the charlatanism of barbers, with their cupping, and leeching, and dentistry, all mixed up together. Dentists then were not willing to associate with each other—they seemed to be afraid of each other. In the year 1845, several dentists of this city, feeling a desire to raise their calling to a higher standard, and believing this could only be done by associated effort, canvassed the matter among their friends, and a circular was issued calling a convention for the purpose of forming a Dental Society. These were sent to ninety-eight dentists, seventy in the city and twenty-eight in the country. They met on the 28th of September, 1845, and organized the Pennsylvania Association of Dental Surgeons, by electing twenty-three active and two honorary members. It was up hill work, and but little general interest was taken in it at first. A few of us went on, and after a few years the importance of securing for dental students a better preparation than that afforded by a few weeks observation in a dental office (then considered sufficient), suggested a dental college. An effort was made to organize one, and an application made to the Legislature of the State for a charter. The application was negatived: the scheme being considered inexpedient, impracticable, and unnecessary. But those in whose hands the matter was placed, persevered, and after much discouragement and vexatious delay the charter was obtained, a faculty elected, and the first dental college in Philadelphia fully organized. Its subsequent history is well known to you. I will close by again expressing my warmest sympathy in the object of this meeting, which has been called to do honor to the memory of Dr. Buckingham, who was my dear friend and companion, and former colleague; and who took an active part in the movement I have related to you. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call on Professor Garretson.

Professor Garretson not being present, response was made by

Dr. Eisenbrey. Mr. Chairman, Professor Garretson desired me to convey his sentiments to the meeting in case he could not be here. He wished me to state to the gentlemen present his very high regard for Professor Buckingham, and his profound admiration for his energy and ability in everything he undertook. He wished me to bear testimony for him to Professor Buckingham's honorable career,

and to the truth that whatever he was called upon to do he did with all his power. Personally I can say that it was a comfort to know him. He always attracted me to him from the time that I as a dental fledgeling first knew him; and as is the case with a great many others, his kindness I can never forget. It was a pleasure to know him.

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Spencer Roberts.

Dr. Roberts. I am not in the habit of talking much. The resolutions presented by the committee express my sentiments. I endorse them in their every word.

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. J. W. White.

Dr. White. We are met to-night in memory of the life—not of the death—of Dr. Buckingham; for it is only the character of the life that makes the death worthy of mention. Life and death are twin problems, or rather let us say two sides of the same problem, which we are all called upon to solve. "It is a solemn thing to die," says the preacher. Surely it is a solemn thing to live. There is nothing so universal as life except death. In certain moods we look about us and can see nothing but life; in certain other moods we are appalled at the prevalence of death—the air is full of farewells to the dying, and mournings for the dead. Yet amid the push and rush of our busy lives, the death of the individual startles us as though death were a new revelation, and we stand gazing blankly into vacancy, as the disciples are represented as having stood gazing after the vanished form of their Master and expecting His return. But when after the first feeling of surprise and loss has passed, and we realize that the death we lament is forever more a fact, how natural it is to recall all that was kindly, and genial, and good in the character of a departed friend. How thankfully we remember the slightest attention, the smallest pleasure which it was our good fortune to have bestowed on one who has passed forever beyond our ministrations, and how comforting is the reflection that we helped rather than hindered him in his course, and that we deserved as well as shared his confidence and esteem.

I knew Dr. Buckingham for nearly forty years—and knew him somewhat intimately; and many a time and oft took counsel with him, as he with me, on professional matters in which we had a mutual if not a like interest. I bear honest testimony when I say that few men, living as long, and associating with as many men as Dr. Buckingham did had as many friends and fewer enemies; few men who lived more openly, more honestly; or, to use an expressive phrase, few men who were nearer "square." Dr. Buckingham was not a genius, he was not a great man in any sense. He worked for

all he received and for all he attained. He had his conflicts with early disadvantages, with misfortunes, with poverty, and with many trials, but he held fast to his manliness, and was not much indebted to any body but God and himself. He gained every position which he ever held on his merits, and not by cunning or trickery. He was a genial, kindly, companionable, unpretending, honest gentleman. Such a character, such a life, is more enduring, more essential than the form of it, more than talent, cleverness, or intellectual sagacity. Dr. Buckingham may not have succeeded as the world counts success; but his life was by no means a failure. He has left an example of character, of integrity, of a fairly actualized manhood; and in the evening of his days, looking back through the dissolving mists of the past, when his bowed frame and feeble limbs admonished him of failing powers, he enjoyed the consciousness of duties faithfully performed, and days well spent.

Happy will it be for us, if like him, we may be able to show in our lives in some good degree, what human life should be—unpolluted by evil passions, uncorroded by sordid cares, unchafed by the disappointments of selfish ambition. Such a character, such a life, was that of Doctor Buckingham. Peace to his ashes! (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. W. F. Litch.

Dr. W. F. Litch. Mr. Chairman, I cannot let the opportunity pass without paying my tribute to the memory of Doctor Buckingham. My acquaintance with him began more than a quarter of a century ago, and our relations continued until they were severed by his death. I knew him first as a student, profiting by his instructions, and last as a colleague, endeavoring to aid him in his work. Throughout my intercourse with him, and throughout his career I found him always all that has been represented here to-night. It seemed to me that Doctor Buckingham always showed at his best in extending the hand of hospitality, when he stood up and took hold of the young and timid student. To his kindly nature he added the character of a grand Christian gentleman. Gentleman! I like that word. And Doctor Buckingham was a thorough gentleman. Allusion has been made to the fact that Doctor Buckingham's career was not a triumphant success financially—that is, that he did not succeed in amassing great riches, as if his failure to gain money was in him a vital defect. It is true that he didn't attain that wealth which is exhibited by the rich men of the world, but he attained something far better—the love of his fellow men; and that respect, that praise which is accorded the painter, when we stand thrilled before his picture. And notwithstanding this consideration, there was much in the life of Doctor Buckingham which it would be

good to contemplate. So we approach it. More especially is this true with us who were co-laborers with him in the profession. It was a marked characteristic of Doctor Buckingham, the generosity with which he imparted knowledge; and this, perhaps, will account in a large measure for his want of financial success. His bent was not towards matters mercenary. He held to the truth which Ruskin utters, that no professional or healthy-minded man can make money-getting the sole object of his life. Let a man enjoy the honest attainment of wealth or a fair remuneration for his work. But no more. To such a man, his work is his pleasure. But to a large class of men their fee is the thing of the greatest importance—that comes first, their work afterwards. They will not do honest work—first, and wait afterwards. Doctor Buckingham did the honest work first. Whatever he had to do he did it with his might. Whatever principles he wanted to demonstrate he sought to demonstrate at once, and with all honesty and industry; whatever tasks were assigned him to execute he set about with all the powers God had given him. More especially do those of us who labored with him know this to be true. The value of his services to the dental profession, especially in the direction of the education of students, his honest conservatism and his manly integrity are now, for the first time perhaps, beginning to be adequately appreciated. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Stellwagen.

Dr. Thomas C. Stellwagen. It would be a shameful act if I hesitated to respond to the call, and I suppose I should always be prepared to bear testimony to such a good man as was Dr. Buckingham. But really I had not dreamed of speaking and I cannot, without doing injustice to myself, make any remarks. I knew him as my friend who has just taken his seat knew him, not so intimately of late years; but, like him, I sat under Dr. Buckingham's teaching years ago. I think I can testify personally to all that Dr. Litch said, and said more eloquently than I can. It occurs to me that in the loss of Dr. Buckingham there is something more serious than his loss as a teacher, or his loss as a dentist; he is a loss to this community. He was one of those men who are now rapidly passing away who knew what it was to pull his way upwards, from poverty into richness of learning and richness of ability and accomplishments—that gave him a certain independence, and a certain nobility of character, which we all admired and all respected in him. Dr. Buckingham was an example for all with whom he came into contact. He was a typical man of America, rather than merely a teacher or simply a dentist. He was a type of the men who came here when this country was a rude wilderness, and who smoothed

its features, and improved and cultivated it, and made it what it is to-day. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will now take the liberty of calling on Dr. Peirce.

Dr. C. N. Peirce. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, Like others who have spoken I knew Dr. Buckingham for many years. Thirty-three years ago last April I first made his acquaintance, and during all that time a warm personal friendship existed between us—one that led me to appreciate his strength, his earnestness, and his honest industry. Within the last twelve months the dental profession has met with a number of losses. We have lost our friend Dr. Goddard, of Louisville, Kentucky; Dr. Marshall H. Webb, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Dr. Wm. H. Allen, of New York; and Dr. Buckingham of our own city; and others have been erased from the roll of laymen, and from the roll of teachers. But no one will be longer remembered than he, whose life we meet here this evening to memorialize. He was not a leader, but he was an earnest worker in our profession; and we cannot fail to acknowledge the efforts he put forth in behalf of education in our profession. He was one of the first to interest himself in the formation of a dental college in this city; and from that early time in its history, he stood steadily by it until his death. He was a teacher, and a good teacher, because he was earnest, and because he was honest and industrious. He was a favorite always with the classes, because he had the happy faculty of illustrating his subjects, and of making his students understand that which he meant to impart. There are probably none who have ever been connected with the school, to whom the students have looked with more reverence and with more confidence. He was gentle and patient, and always ready to answer a question, and always willing to impart knowledge whenever he possessed it. No one was ever afraid to approach him. He was a friend of the students, and the students who have gone forth from the school with which he was for so many years connected, will long cherish his memory—and long may we cherish it. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Wm. H. Trueman.

Dr. William H. Trueman. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I avail myself of this opportunity to add a word to that which has already been said in honor of Dr. Buckingham, and desire in doing so to call attention to the valuable service he has rendered the profession as an investigator. If you look over the record of his connection with our profession, you will see that he early evidenced a disposition to examine into matters but little known, and will find that he conducted quite a series of experiments, which have proved very valu-

able. At the present time many of them are almost lost sight of, although when they occupied his attention they were considered of great moment. I would refer to his investigations in regard to the expansion of plaster. He spent upon that subject a great deal of time and money, and I think as the result of his labors we are enabled to work with greater certainty and with greater satisfaction. He demonstrated the fact, that the expansion of plaster was so slight as to be of no practical moment; and a knowledge of that fact has led us to look for the evils attributed to it, in other directions, and to correct them. Then his investigations in regard to the physiological action of arsenic, at a time when its properties were but little known, added greatly to our knowledge of that useful agent, and caused it to be used with more intelligence and care. Again, at the last meeting but one of our National Association held at Cincinnati, he exhibited the results of a series of experiments which he had made in regard to the behavior of celluloid; and gave us positive information as to the degree of heat needed for its proper and skillful working. Again, at Niagara, he mentioned a series of experiments he had under way, but which he had not completed on account of illness; showing that from the commencement of his professional life until his death, his constant efforts tended to add to the resources of the profession with which he was associated. I have several times had the pleasure of working with him in the laboratory, and I was particularly struck with the perfect absence of that enthusiasm which leads so many to anticipate results. He seemed perfectly impassive, patiently and carefully watching, and noticing results, without exhibiting the slightest feeling. He simply watched to see what the experiment had to show; he questioned at every stage, and accepted nothing as conclusive until it was finally proven. He had a vast capacity for inventing little things that were needed. If he wished a little piece of apparatus, he had both the knowledge, and the mechanical skill and ingenuity to construct it. I can add little to that which has been so well said, except in regard to the points I have mentioned. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Dwinelle, of New York.

Dr. W. H. Dwinelle. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I deem myself fortunate in being here, and especially as I see that I am the only representative from my city to express our sympathy with you, and our condolence in the death of our worthy friend Dr. Buckingham.

The resolutions presented to you to-night are full and exhaustive, and I agree with every word which has been said in them. The eulogiums which have been pronounced upon Dr. Buckingham, I

endorse with all my heart. The communications which have been received, and the testimony which has been uttered touching the excellence of the character of Dr. Buckingham, certainly, we all endorse with all our hearts. A great man has fallen among us—I mean great in its conservative sense—great in a comprehensive sense—not great in all things.

He had those good and those substantial traits of character which are better than mere brilliant qualities. I knew Dr. Buckingham, I do not know for how many years. I believe I commenced the profession earlier than he—at any rate, for almost all the years I have been associated in the profession, I knew Dr. Buckingham with a tolerable degree of intimacy. Of course, living in another city, I only saw him occasionally; but I never saw the man, but my heart went out to him in sympathy, in admiration, and in love. He was a man who seemed to have dual qualities, almost contradictory, which were joined—I might say—married together. The sweetness of his nature you all knew. He was tender, almost womanly in his feeling, and yet there was a strength and a manliness of character in him which nobody could fail to recognize. But in the combination of all his characteristics there was a peculiar sweetness. I had an exemplification of that recently, and within a few months.

By an invitation he came over to join me at a gathering of a little social club in New York, and it was my unspeakable pleasure to have him as my guest. He remained during Saturday night and Sunday, and I then had an opportunity of learning the man as never before, and as I could not have known him had we not been brought so intimately and tenderly together. We were discussing the death of some friends in our profession, and our talk brought us very near to each other. In that conversation I discovered the sweetness and excellence and grace of his character as I never knew it before. It seemed to me that he showed more than most men do that he had learned the lesson of life, and that he had appreciated it, and profited by it. The memories which he has left behind, green and beautiful, and the works which he accomplished are crystallized into our profession, and have become part of it as we all know.

Dr. Buckingham came into our profession as has been exhibited to you by our friend Dr. White, when it was in process of formation, and when it was almost a reproach to be called a dentist. Like a pioneer he did all he could to remove the difficulties, and make the future of the profession easier and more agreeable to those who succeeded him. He did his work nobly and well, and those who come after him will revere him for what he did.

We have talked about our friend Dr. Buckingham as though he

had passed away from us forever, as though we would see nothing more of him. But he has left behind him a heritage. While we must regard him as lost to us in many respects, we should enumerate the gains which come to us as a heritage from him, and which will continue to come to us as members of our profession.

"How can I cease to pray for thee? Somewhere
In God's great universe thou art to-day,
Can He not reach thee with His tender care?
Can He not hear me when for thee I pray?"

"What matters it to Him who holds within
The hollow of His hand all worlds, all space,
That thou art done with earthly pain and sin?
Somewhere within His ken thou hast a place.

"Somewhere thou livest and hast need of Him;
Somewhere thy soul sees higher heights to climb;
And somewhere still there may be valleys dim
That thou must pass to reach the hills sublime!

"Then all the more because thou canst not hear
Poor human words of blessing, will I pray—
O true, brave heart! God bless thee! wheresoe'er
In His great universe thou art to-day!"

(Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. James Truman.

Dr. James Truman. When a traveler starts to climb a mountain height, he has to pass over rugged rocks, and places of difficulty, and as he ascends higher and higher, he finds that the difficulties increase more and more; but as he goes further on, and looks backward to the places he has left, he observes how they diminish in size, and sees that everything upon the surface of the earth has diminished; while before him and around him, as he goes still further on, the sun shines in a mid-day illumination, lighting every cloud with glory. Such I take it, is the life of every individual in the passage through life. Whatever troubles and whatever difficulties we may have had in our past lives, they are smoothed down as we pass on towards the end of our existence, and become as nothing; and may even be tinged with glory. Such, as I understand it, were the character and the life of our friend Dr. Buckingham. Beginning in humble circumstances, he mounted many difficulties, and traversed one trouble after another; experiencing trials and victories, which have come to many of us who have gone through the same course of instruction. As he climbed up, he held on, and stood in his latter days in all the glory of his profession.

When I was a young man, just starting out in this profession, I remember the obstacles and difficulties that lay in my way. I did not know which way to turn. As has been well said by Dr. J. D. White, the difficulties in those early days cannot be understood by those who have come into practice at this later period of time. As he stated there was then very little or no intercourse between members in the profession. At that time, however, a noble member of our profession stretched out his hand, and brought me into the old Philadelphia college, and for that I had a sense of thankfulness which has lasted until the present time. I allude to Dr. Elisha Townsend.

When I first attended the lectures of Dr. Buckingham he was the professor of mechanical dentistry. You all perhaps have experienced a desire to communicate with your fellows, and to have something in common with others. I had that desire, especially in regard to those who were as young as myself. When I first had an opportunity of hearing a lecture on mechanical dentistry, I cannot describe my feelings in comparing what little I knew, with what was known by one my superior. The regard I had for him when I first knew him grew as the years went on. The time came when I too had to join him as a colleague, as a professor in this college. I remember well that time. It was a period of great anxiety. He had been an old professor. He gave me such advice, and comfort, and strength, as enabled me to go on; and probably I might not have been able to go on had it not been for him. I remember that with gratitude. I remember also—and I cannot let the opportunity pass without alluding to them—two other colleagues who have recently passed away. I allude to one who was always in the background, who was always too modest to come to the front ranks. Out of twenty men in the profession to-day, not one probably ever did as much for our profession as Professor Wildman. I remember him well. (Applause). He died in the streets of Philadelphia, but his name should live as it does with me. But I am afraid it does not. Then I remember ever combative, earnest, and ever generous Barker, who has also passed away. I remember him with feelings of satisfaction, because he was the life of our conventions. I say it also here with satisfaction, because I was sometimes opposed to him. But although we combated on principle, I believe we never lost an honest respect for each other. But time passed on. Most of the difficulties that this college has passed through I experienced, because I was connected with it during the most critical period of its existence. I remember very well one occasion—and you will pardon me for alluding to it here, as I know it is a subject which should not be brought up in such a meet-

ing, probably, but I do it for the purpose of alluding to one incident in the life of Dr. Buckingham which does him honor—I remember, as most of you will remember who are as old as I am, and some of you perhaps who are younger, that period in the history of this college, when it was a question whether women should be admitted into our profession. The difficulty finally culminated, and I can remember, how at last one poor lone woman came here from Germany, asking for admission at our doors. She was received very coldly; the faculty was not disposed to receive her as a student, and had by a tie vote decided to reject her application. As we stood in the Museum after the faculty meeting had adjourned, Dr. Buckingham called me to one side and said, “Dr. Truman I have changed my vote?” And Mrs. Hirschfeld was admitted into the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery. (Applause).

Now, what was the result? Mrs. Hirschfeld went to the Old Country, and there she influenced German home-life and German woman-life. Now we have women students here from Germany, and all through Germany there are women graduates from this institution. And more than that, she established in Berlin a clinic and a hospital for the diseases of women. I think that was one of the crowning acts of Dr. Buckingham’s life; but I will not dwell any longer upon this matter. His character is well known to all of you. He was gentle and kindly. He had his peculiarities, but he attracted all who came into social contact with him. Dr. Buckingham’s life, clouded as it was with mists, and the ingratitude of others, will still be beautiful to most of us. The present may be tempered with sorrow on account of his loss, but the future will be lightened by a remembrance of his worth. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). I will now call upon Dr. David Roberts.

Dr. David Roberts. Mr. Chairman, I can testify to the great value of Dr. Buckingham as a teacher in our profession. The resolutions which have been presented, cover the ground so thoroughly, and the gentlemen who have already spoken have so fully exhibited the good qualities of Dr. Buckingham, that there is really nothing left for me to say. I had an acquaintance with him extending over thirty-five years. I always found him genial, and I may say affectionate. There was a magnetism about him that drew you towards him as naturally as water runs down a hill. It may have been that there was more of a brotherly feeling between us, because we both came from the same State—Delaware. Of course there was a State pride in us, which no doubt brought us more closely to each other. But I wish to say that Dr. Buckingham was all that a man can be in his family; and he was all that a man could be in society, and in the world, and in his profession. I frequently was in his company

long after I ceased practice. I always found him a gentleman, and I may say more than that, because I have some knowledge of it, I found him a Christian. I am convinced from what I saw in the last year of his life that he had become seriously impressed with regard to the future state, and was a regular attendant at church. Peace to his ashes. (Applause).

Dr. Neall (chairman). The Chair will call upon Dr. Hayhurst, of New Jersey.

Dr. Hayhurst. My acquaintance with Dr. Buckingham extended back more than thirty years, and my intercourse with him was as close and as intimate, probably, as that of any man in this house. I never came to the city without visiting him, and he frequently visited me. In all our intercourse—and at one time I occupied a chair in the college—I can say that we were always found side by side. I loved the man, and always did love him, from the day on which he took me by the hand, in his own kindly way, and extended to me a cordial welcome, and a professional interest; and, probably, had it not been for him and his influence, I would not be standing here to-night. He was my friend in the fullest acceptance of the term, and as such I appreciated him. As to his character it has already been fully spoken of, and it is fully understood. The last time I met him was at Niagara; I had not seen him for some time; and as I looked upon his tottering frame, I saw his debilitated appearance and the evidences of his failing health. Yet I found him interested in matters connected with our profession—still working for its good, and still exhibiting a warmth of heart towards all in our profession and a desire for their advancement. At the express desire of a portion of his family I had some oversight and some little care of him at that time. I parted with him on the evening when I left there, not expecting to hear so speedily of his dissolution. During his sickness his son sent to me a daily account of his health and prospects, which I appreciated, because of my love and my veneration for the man. I was somewhat intimate with his family, and I had an interest in them. Dr. Buckingham has gone; but to the younger members of the profession he has left behind him his works; through them “though dead he still speaketh.” (Applause.)

Dr. Neall (chairman). I call upon Dr. Guilford.

Dr. Guilford. I did not come here to-night to speak, but to honor the memory of one whom I loved. While sitting here listening to the remarks of the gentlemen who have already spoken, many things have occurred to my mind in regard to Dr. Buckingham, and I feel that I would be recreant to my duty, if I did not say something to testify in honor of his memory. I very well remember the first time I met him, when I was brought to the city a green

country boy, with the intention of being placed under his personal instructions, and the good advice he gave me. I remember his kindness towards me while I attended college, and afterwards on social occasions in our own house, from time to time. I knew him personally as a friend, more intimately within the last few years than ever before.

The last time it was my pleasure to look upon him was upon a warm Sunday evening in July, when he came to my home in West Philadelphia, as he often did. I feel indebted to him for good instruction, for good advice, and for the encouragement he gave me in my profession. There was disparity in our years, but yet he never hesitated to tell me about his troubles and his joys. I feel it a duty to pay my tribute to his memory to-night. In my judgment one trait of his character has not been sufficiently dwelt upon—the greatest of them all—the power of attracting everybody towards him and making friends of them. Yet he was a man of great individuality; he often had controversies with others in his profession, when he would speak his mind freely; at the same time, however, he was always willing to be convinced, and always generous to his opponents, so long as he thought they were treating him properly. While I listened to the remarks which have been made this evening I thought of the old adage—"Speak nothing but good of the dead." But nothing but good can be spoken of Dr. Buckingham. He loved his own best—he loved his family, he loved his profession, he loved his college. In its amplitude he did not confine his love to his family, nor to his profession, nor to his college, nor to those who were the most closely associated with him; he was liberal in a remarkable degree, and his heart always went out towards everybody who would exhibit a return. I indorse every word of the resolutions which have been presented to-night. I could not add a word to them nor would I take a word from them. (Applause).

Dr. Daniel Neall (chairman). Before putting the resolutions it occurs to me to allude again to the figure of the "Old Oak," which has already been employed by Dr. Litch in reference to Dr. Buckingham. The "Old Oak" shaken down after many years. I also had observed in Dr. Buckingham his patience, his persistency, and his inflexibility of character. It seems to me that dentists of the present day are well content "*to be*." That is good—"TO BE"—provided you be in work! Dr. Buckingham was! He comprehended his whole duty. He was! You saw all the lights and shadows of the man. Fifteen years ago the torturing tyrant dyspepsia had hold of him and he had no peace; and yet he was kind. He recognized his brotherhood with men, and probably very few ever obeyed or fulfilled this law better than he. That was the shade. But when

the light, the sunshine came—how lovely he was! And in every circumstance and condition of his life we always knew that he “*was*.” He “*was*” in those fragments of time, and he certainly “*is*” in the great future—the eternity. But brothers, old and young, *he died with the harness on*. That is enough. (Applause).

The resolutions presented by the committee were unanimously agreed to by a rising vote, after which the meeting adjourned.

